

2017 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SB 2265

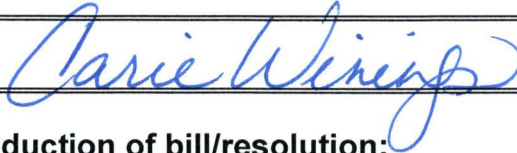
2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
Sheyenne River Room, State Capitol

SB 2265
1/26/2017
Job Number 27432

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 43-19.1-16.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; to amend and reenact sections 43-19.1-16 and 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to regulation of land surveyors and land surveyor interns; to repeal section 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; and to provide an effective date.

Minutes:

Attachments: 1-5

Chairman Poolman: Opened the hearing on SB 2265.

Senator Unruh, District 33: Testified to explain and in support of the bill. The North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors will explain the bill in detail to you. The bill does two main things. It changes the qualifications for land surveyor interns and then in turn it changes the qualifications to be a professional land surveyor in North Dakota.

(1:30) Kenneth Link, Professional Land Surveyor, North American Coal Corporation: See Attachment #1 for testimony in support of the bill.

(10:05) Chairman Poolman: Is your whole board and all of the members in favor if this?

Kenneth Link: In short the answer is yes. In the whole group, there might be some that say no but absolutely the majority do.

Chairman Poolman: On your map it appears that 24 states have no mandatory education requirements. Is it a national movement to go toward education requirements?

Kenneth Link: Yes, it is a movement to go that direction nationally. I think one of the biggest delays from some states is that they may not offer the educational program within their university systems. It is just a guess and I am not certain on that. If you look at our present law, it is kind of stunning that you can get certified as a land surveyor intern and there is not one statement about education. Of course, the proof is in the test also.

Senator Bekkedahl: What is your personal education experience?

Kenneth Link: In 1969-1971 I attended the North Dakota State College of Science and at that time they were the only program that offered Civil Engineering Technology. The program has changed in the curriculum and it is really strong land surveying and it is now officially called Land Surveying and Engineering Technology.

Senator Bekkedahl: You mentioned that one of the surveys was taken at educational setting; do you have educational requirements on a one or two-year basis to remain certified then?

Kenneth Link: We do. To hold your professional license, you have to renew that every 2 years and you need 30 professional contact hours. It is very necessary in our changing times. Surveying, has become much more technological.

Senator Bekkedahl: It has changed. In Montana, they started the change in 2023, can you explain why the delay there?

Kenneth Link: It is the same thing in our bill. We have 2026 and that is because of those that are on their route to become certified as a land surveyor intern and that is giving enough notice for these people to get on board and get it done under the present law and to follow the new law in 2023.

(14:40) Curtis Glasoe, Director, North Dakota chapter of National Society of Professional Surveyors, and Co-Chairman, North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors: See Attachment #2 for testimony in support of the bill.

(20:10) Senator Bekkedahl: To the interns, this addresses some educational requirement but it still also addresses that they have some experience level with a registered surveyor. I know it was important and I appreciate your testimony.

Curtis Glasoe: Yes.

Senator Marcellais: Regarding the oil companies coming from out of state, are they required to for a license to practice here in North Dakota?

Curtis Glasoe: Yes, they are. That is what brought about our well site planning process. It has to a North Dakota stamp. They can operate in the state with another firm or another company but to be a company in the state you have to file your company license and you have to have registered land surveyors on board to do land surveying work.

(22:40) Gregory L. Johnson, Charter Member, North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors, and South Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors: See Attachment #3 for testimony in support of the bill.

(28:20) Aaron Hummert, President, North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors: See Attachment #4 for testimony in support of the bill.

(30:30) Matthew Weeks, Professional Land Surveyor, Resident, and current Basin Electric Power Cooperative Employee: See Attachment #5 for testimony in support of the bill.

(32:15) Chairman Poolman: Asked for further testimony and there was none. Closed the hearing on SB 2265.

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
Sheyenne River Room, State Capitol

SB 2265
1/26/2017
Job Number 27441

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Carie Wining

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 43-19.1-16.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; to amend and reenact sections 43-19.1-16 and 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to regulation of land surveyors and land surveyor interns; to repeal section 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; and to provide an effective date.

Minutes:

No Attachments

Chairman Poolman: Opened SB 2265 for committee discussion.

Senator Bekkedahl: Moved a Do Pass.

Senator Meyer: Seconded.

A Roll Call Vote Was Taken: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent.

Motion Carried.

Senator Meyer will carry the bill.

Date: 1/26
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2265

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

- Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
 Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Bekkedahl Seconded By Meyer

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Poolman	✓		Senator Marcellais	✓	
Vice Chairman Davison	Ab				
Senator Bekkedahl	✓				
Senator Meyer	✓				
Senator Vedaa	✓				

Total (Yes) 5 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Meyer

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2265: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Poolman, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
SB 2265 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2017 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SB 2265

2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Political Subdivisions Committee Prairie Room, State Capitol

SB 2265
3/3/2017
Job # 28685

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Carmen Hickley

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to regulation of land surveyors and land surveyor interns; relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; and to provide an effective date

Minutes:

1,2,3,4,5,6

Chairman Klemin: Opened the hearing on SB 2265.

Senator Unruh: Introduced the bill.

Chairman Klemin: Discussed submitted testimony from Curtis Glasoe (Testimony #1)

Kenneth Link: (Testimony and handouts #2) (Time 2:28 to 8:37)

Chairman Klemin: Are you here on behalf of Society of Land Surveyors or as an individual?

Mr. Link: As an individual. I worked on the committee.

Rep K. Koppelman: Has there been a problem with land surveyors and their work and you believe that is why legal requirements should be forthcoming?

Mr. Link: The concern is if you gain your certification by experience only they would not get the broad knowledge of subdivisions.

Rep K. Koppelman: Is there a problem now? Are there land surveyors whose work is deficient in North Dakota?

Mr. Link: I'm not aware of deficient.

Rep K. Koppelman: Your survey is to the people in the industry, do you think it should be tougher to get in in the field? You are not surveying people who hire land surveyors for their satisfaction. You are talking to people who are already in the business, and should it be more difficult for people to get into the profession?

Mr. Link: The questionnaire went to license surveyors, certified land surveyor interns and students. I am not saying it should be harder to get into the profession, I'm saying we should be better prepared to get into the profession.

Rep K. Koppelman: Are there people in the profession who if these requirements were imposed on them could no longer be in the profession without going back and getting more education?

Mr. Link: This would take effective in 2026 which would give them a 10-year window to move in to finish their process of getting certified as a land surveyor intern.

Rep K. Koppelman: Are there people who are currently licensed or certified to be a land surveyor in ND that does not have the required education that the bill would require and would they have to go back or are you grandfathering them in?

Mr. Link: Once they have their certificate they have their certificate.

Chairman Klemin: I don't think I have ever seen an effective date that far into the future. On sections 2 and 3 of the bill, 43-19.1-16.1, the title of that is, qualifications of land surveyor interns. The title of the next one is, qualifications of land surveyor interns, exactly the same title. I'm not sure that won't be confusing. As I understand the bill this existing law with the amendment is going to be repealed on July 1, 2026. In the meantime, both the old law as amended and the new law are both going to be in effect.

Mr. Link: No, that is not my understanding. The present law will be in effect until July 1, 2026.

Chairman Klemin: It doesn't say the new section 43-19.1-16.2 is not going to be effective until 2026. It would become effective on August 1, 2017. We would have two different sections that would both be in effect until 2026. Is that your understanding?

Mr. Link: 16.2 would become effective July 1, 2026.

Chairman Klemin: Where does it say that?

Mr. Link: Page 3 line 20. Under qualification for land surveyor intern on 16.1, by July 1, 2026.

Chairman Klemin: As I read this both of these sections are going to be in effect until July 1, 2026. Then after that only the new language is going to be effective and the other will be repealed. You said the reason for that was to give people the 10-year window in order to get qualified?

Mr. Link: That's right. If they are in the process of experience only it is only going to take them four years. Depending on what is qualified experience by our State Board of Registration for professional land surveyors, it might take them more than 4 years because they have qualification of qualified experience. So that puts the window out there 10 years.

Chairman Klemin: Rep. Koppelman had asked about grandfathered type clause. I don't see one in here. If you are currently certified by experience only it doesn't say in here that you have to meet these additional requirements later.

Mr. Link: I understood the question that it was by 2026 if they didn't have the educational requirements and they were certified as an intern, once they have their certificate they have their certificate. They have met the requirements, it doesn't make a difference if it is experience or experience and/or education.

Chairman Klemin: It doesn't say that a person who is already certified is grandfathered. I find it unusual that a person that is certified now would somehow be an intern for that long of period of time. How does that work between a person who is an intern and a person not an intern?

Mr. Link: Once they have met the requirements for intern, that is experience and testing, then they have to have 4 years of experience to take their professional test. There is no change in that, this is just requiring some minimum education to be certified as a land surveyor intern.

Chairman Klemin: I understand that but the confusion I am having is where you said the persons that are already certified based on experience only are grandfathered.

Mr. Link: If they are certified at this time with experience only, they are certified and they do not have to go back and get other education. Grandfathered is probably not an appropriate word we are not going back. Once they receive their certification they move on.

Rep. Ertelt: Does the certification every expire?

Mr. Link: No.

Rep K. Koppelman: Why did you not include any kind of continuing education?

Mr. Link: That person certified as an intern would have to work under the direction of a licensed professional surveyor. There is mandatory continuing education for renewing your license as a professional land surveyor.

Rep K. Koppelman: What is the difference between a license and certificate.

Mr. Link: A license gives you the right to practice on your own. You can seal and sign documents. An intern is a person working towards their license.

Rep K. Koppelman: Once they are licensed there is continued education required, is that in this statute?

Mr. Link: No.

Aaron Hubbard, Registered Professional Land Surveyor: (Testimony #3) (Time 24:11 to 27:23)

Rep K. Koppelman: You talked about NDSPLS has 340 members of which 133 are registered professional land surveyors who live and practice in the state, you say there are 500 land surveyors who are licensed. What is the difference between the certificate, the registration, and the licensure?

Mr. Hubbard: You start out working under a licensed surveyor, or you get a 2-year technical degree or a 4-year bachelor's degree. Depending on your eligibility it would be immediately if it was a 4-year degree, then you sit for your land surveyor intern exam. Then you need 4-years of gradual increasing responsibility of experience pertaining to the legal aspects of land surveying. Then work an additional 4-years then you sit for your land surveyor test. We have several classifications of our members.

Rep K. Koppelman: There is a benefit given to those who have an education versus those who earn their education by experience?

Mr. Hubbard: Correct.

Rep K. Koppelman: This bill would say you have to have a certain amount of education regardless rather than just allowing them to achieve the same standard through experience.

Mr. Hubbard: That is correct.

Rep K. Koppelman: Looking at the map and references have been made to neighboring states and they don't have these same requirements. Why should we have higher standard than those places need?

Mr. Hubbard: It's hard to know what their policies are in other states. I don't view what we are proposing is an unachievable standard. This isn't construed to setting the bar to some unachievable standard and for the people who get their license in ND and want to go to another state this gets you closer to take what you would need in another state.

Rep. Johnson: This is all the pathway to a professional land surveyor license. This doesn't preclude those coming out of a 2-year program? If they are not on the path to that professionally it depends on the firm they are working for? They don't have to go through this process?

Mr. Hubbard: Everybody's motivation is different and what they want to achieve in their career is different. There are ample opportunities for technicians in our state.

Rep. Beadle: How many of current university system 4-year school offer a bachelorette degree in ND?

Mr. Hubbard: None, the primary program would be through Wahpeton 2- year degree. The second one close would be the civil technology degree offered at BSC.

Rep. Beadle: So currently we don't have a bachelor's degrees in our state? But now we want to require bachelorette degrees for all these?

Mr. Hubbard: The minimum requirement would be a certificate; associate's degree is acceptable.

Chairman Klemin: There is a great need for accuracy in surveying, can you tell us with the new technology like GPS are we becoming more accurate now and does this have an effect of changing existing boundary lines?

Mr. Hubbard: The boundary lines that have been monumented hold and cannot be changed.

Chairman Klemin: The original surveys we are going by that even though it is not as accurate as we can do now?

Mr. Hubbard: When the original government surveyor put the monument in the ground that was it and always will be.

Rep. Toman: If you have an associate's degree and meet the qualification as an intern and become certified as an intern, can you progress up to be a registered professional land surveyor with that same associate's degree?

Mr. Hubbard: Yes, with the appropriate experience. The section 1 where that has lined out that wording, we put all the requirements under the intern and if you read section 1 that refers to if you met your certificate under land surveyor intern, then when you have, that it's an additional 4-years.

Rep. Toman: That additional 4-years is that a degree requirement or 4-years' experience as an intern?

Mr. Hubbard: It's 4-years of progressive experience as an intern under the professional land surveyor.

Matthew Weeks: (Testimony #4) (Time 39:42 to 42:52)

Rep. Beadle: In your position can you tell us what has been the enrollment numbers through the program.

Mr. Weeks: Over the past 10-years enrollment had been going down considerably. Five years ago we were at low numbers about 10 per class. This year we have 35 students.

Rep. Beadle: Do you know how many people get licensed, what percentage comes from the education and what percent comes from experience?

Mr. Weeks: The experience route is shrinking. They look for education first.

Rep. Ertelt: Could you explain page 3 line 16, what that entails?

Mr. Weeks: There are numerous online programs available. It allows for somebody not to go to an institution but can do online courses.

Rep. Ertelt: I am looking for a duration versus an associate's degree? How long does certificates take to obtain if you are doing it on line? How many board approved programs are there?

Mr. Weeks: I don't know how many there are. There is one for sure. It will take 3 semesters and 33 credits. It depends on how much time you can devote to it. I would guess 1 to 2 years.

Rep. Pyle: You and the previous speakers are registered in other states, is there a reciprocity system?

Mr. Weeks: There is a general reciprocity system. The states around ND are members of NCEES, they accept the national 16 hour exams however ND has its own 2-hour state specific exam, the surrounding states also have state specific exams.

Rep. Johnson: Nothing stops a person who has no degrees to work for a firm, is that correct?

Mr. Weeks: That is correct. You would be limited in stamping and signing you name but you could do the work.

Holly Beck, Holly Beck Surveying & Engineering: (Testimony #5) (Time 49:43 to 52:09)

Rep. Ertelt: Do you employ both those who have become interns with experience and those that have degrees?

Ms. Beck: I do.

Rep. Ertelt: You could as a term of employment set a degree as a term of employment when you are seeking new employees?

Ms. Beck: Yes, when I do advertise I do ask for a 2-year degree or surveying education as part of the requirements.

Gregory Johnson: (Testimony 6) (Time 55:49 to 1:02:09)

Rep. Ertelt: Which program did you attend to get your degree?

Mr. Johnson: I got associates degree from the college of science.

Rep. Ertelt: How long ago was that?

Mr. Johnson: 1972 to 1974.

Chairman Klemin: No other testimony, closed the hearing

Chairman Klemin: Stated there is a misspelling of principles on page 2 line 6.

Rep K. Koppelman: Moved the amendment to correct the spelling.

Vice Chairman Hatlestad: Second the motion on the amendment.

Voice vote carried.

Vice Chairman Hatlestad: Moved a do pass as amended on SB 2265.

Rep. Johnson: Second the motion.

Chairman Klemin: Dealing with my own experience, I think this is a good step creating more professional land surveyors based on education.

Rep K. Koppelman: You mentioned earlier that you didn't believe the bill offered the grandfathering they sought.

Chairman Klemin: It is a long effective date but I can see their rationale.

Rep. Simons: I think free market will take care some of this. And we should not be involved in this.

Rep. Ertelt: I assume in the situations you talked about were approved by a licensed surveyor.

Chairman Klemin: What was pointed out was that the experience only provision to allow someone to become a professional land surveyor is being deleted and education will be required. Page 2 lines 8-10 is where the experience only option is being deleted so they have to have some education not just 8 years of experience. Some of this language is just being moved into different sections. I think it's more than leaving it up to free market or the employer to determine whether a persons qualified to do these things. I think the public hiring surveyors to do the work has a right to expect they know what they are doing and qualified to do it.

Do pass as amended carried 9 yes, 5 no, 1 absent

Carrier Rep. R. S. Becker:

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Adopted by the Political Subdivisions
Committee

March 3, 2017

Handwritten notes: "3/3/17" and "107" with a signature.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2265

Page 2, line 6, replace "principals" with "principles"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 3-3-17
Roll Call Vote: 1

2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2265

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: Correct misspelling Page 2 line 6
TO Principles

- Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
- Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Rep. Koppelman Seconded By Rep. Hatlestad

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Klemin			Rep. Guggisberg		
Vice Chairman Hatlestad			Rep. Hanson		
Rep. Beadle					
Rep. Becker					
Rep. Ertelt					
Rep. Johnson					
Rep. Koppelman					
Rep. Longmuir					
Rep. Maragos					
Rep. Pyle					
Rep. Simons					
Rep. Toman					
Rep. Zubke					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Voice vote carried

**2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2265**

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

- Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
- Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Rep. Hatlestad Seconded By Rep. Johnson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Klemin	/		Rep. Guggisberg	/	
Vice Chairman Hatlestad	/		Rep. Hanson	/	
Rep. Beadle		/			
Rep. Becker	/	/			
Rep. Ertelt		/			
Rep. Johnson	/	/			
Rep. Koppelman		/			
Rep. Longmuir	/				
Rep. Maragos	/	/			
Rep. Pyle	/				
Rep. Simons		/			
Rep. Toman		/			
Rep. Zubke	/				

Total (Yes) 9 No 5

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. Rich S. Becker

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2265: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Klemin, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (9 YEAS, 5 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2265 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 2, line 6, replace "principals" with "principles"

Renumber accordingly

2017 TESTIMONY

SB 2265

Kenneth J. Link
613 4th Street Northeast
Hazen ND 58545
701-748-2827 (H)
701-873-7220 (W)

My back ground is:

- Resident of ND all of my life.
- After college I worked in the surveying and mapping field for 45 years:
- A private engineering and surveying company, Mandan ND, (1971).
- Montana Dakota Utilities Company, Bismarck ND (1972).
- In 1975 I started working for The North American Coal Corporation, Freedom Mine northwest of Beulah, N.D. and I am employed there at the present time, but will be retiring in 2017.

Professional Licenses:

- I have been licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor in the state of North Dakota since 1979.
- I am also licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor in the following states:
South Dakota, Wyoming and Colorado.

The North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) has talked about the minimum education requirements for 10 years and have studied this subject for the last three (3) years.

NDSPLS is a society of 346 members, 242 with North Dakota mailing addresses, and 133 hold a professional Land Surveyors license in the state of North Dakota (2016 data).

NDSPLS has provided two questionnaires to it's members. The first on December 3, 2015 in an education setting and the second on January 27, 2016 at an annual meeting and convention.

The results of the first (1) questionnaire showed that 76.5% believed there should be some type of education requirements and the second (2) questionnaire showed that 84.8% believed there should be some type of education requirements. (See attached summary of each questionnaire).

The bill removes the "survey experience only" to become certified as a Land Surveyor Intern. This proposed Senate Bill 2265 provides four (4) different options for meeting the educational requirements. On line learning is available throughout the nation for a working person wanting to meet the requirements and become a Land Surveyor Intern.

I support this bill for three (3) reasons:

#1 The bill will create a sound frame work for the basic educational needs for a career as a land surveyor in North Dakota.

#2 The bill will put North Dakota on par with the educational requirements of surrounding states, and helps meet the needs of industry in our changing times. (See attached map).

#3 This basic education requirement for a Land Surveyor Intern will not require the development of any new educational college programs in the state of North Dakota, as I had met one of these four proposed educational requirements 45 years ago within this state.

I would be open to try to answer any questions at any time.

Again, I do support SB 2265 and encourage a vote of Do Pass.

Kenneth J. link January 26, 2017



“Minimum Education Requirements Evaluation”

Opinions obtained on December 3, 2014.

1. **32 or 23.53%** Do nothing leave the process as it exists today with **NO EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**.
2. **29 or 21.32%** Require semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping, and related courses acceptable to the State Board **WITHOUT** a type of degree.
3. **10 or 7.35%** Require an associate’s degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
4. **55 or 40.44%** Require an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree **WITH** semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.
5. **2 or 1.47%** Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
6. **8 or 5.88%** Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.

Conciliation:

23.53% Believe on change and no education requirements.

47.79% Believe some type of an Associate degree is required.

67.65% Believe there should be some type of requires semester credit hours of land surveying education requirement.

76.47% Believe there should be some type of education requirement.

Recommendation:

The committee’s recommendation to the members of NDSPLS is as follows:

Whereas 76.47% believing there should be some type of education requirements and

Whereas 67.65% believing there should be a land surveying education requirement and

Whereas 47.79% believing there should be some type of Associate degree requirement

Therefore an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree with specified number of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries and mapping be the Minimum Education Requirements for registration as a Land Surveyor Intern in the state of North Dakota.

This report completes the committee’s investigation as laid out in the motion made at the NDSPLS general membership meeting on February 14, 2014.

Respectfully submitted: Kenneth Link, Greg Johnson, Aaron Hummert and Matt Weeks.



SB 2265 1-26-17 #1 pg 3

“Minimum Education Requirements Evaluation”

Opinions obtained on January 27 2016.

1. **10 or 15.15%** Do nothing leave the process as it exists today with **NO EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**.
2. **4 or 6.06%** Require semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping, and related courses acceptable to the State Board **WITHOUT** a type of degree.
3. **2 or 3.03%** Require an associate’s degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
4. **46 or 69.70%** Require an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree **WITH** semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.
5. **1 or 1.52%** Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
6. **3 or 4.54%** Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.

Conciliation:

15.15% Believe no change and no education requirements.

72.73% Believe some type of an Associate degree is required.

83.30% Believe there should be some type of required semester credits of land surveying education.

84.85% Believe there should be some type of education requirement.

Recommendation:

The committee’s recommendation to the members of NDSPLS is as follows:

Whereas 84.85% believing there should be some type of education requirements and

Whereas 83.30% believing there should be a land surveying education requirement and

Whereas 72.73% believing there should be some type of Associate degree requirement.

Therefore an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree with specified number of semester credits of land surveying, real property boundaries and mapping be the Minimum Education Requirements for registration as a Land Surveyor Intern in the state of North Dakota.

This report completes the committee’s investigation as laid out in the motion made at the NDSPLS general membership meeting on January 27, 2016.

Respectfully submitted

Form 1/03/2015

Land Surveyor in Training (Survey Intern) Minimum Educational Requirements

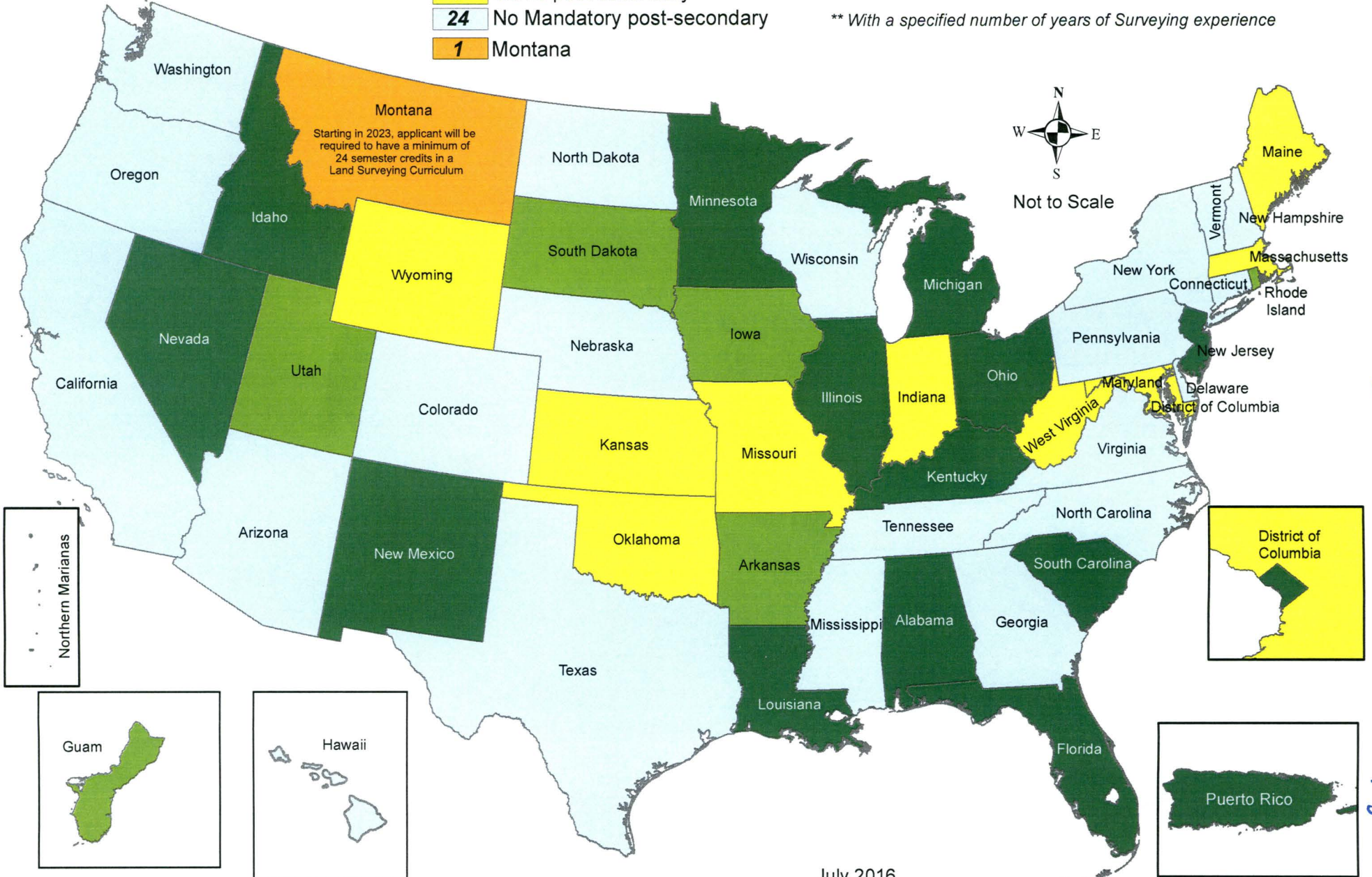
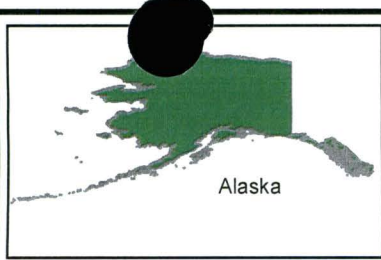
Assumptions: 1) a new Surveyor applicant who has never been licensed anywhere (ignoring comity or grandfathering clauses)
 2) Who wants to start the licensure process in your jurisdiction 3) assuming they pass the FS exam somewhere in the process

What is the current **MINIMUM EDUCATION LEVEL** required to qualify as a Land Surveyor in Training or Survey Intern in your jurisdiction:

- 17** Bachelor's Degree *
- 6** Associate's Degree *
- 9** Some post-secondary **
- 24** No Mandatory post-secondary
- 1** Montana

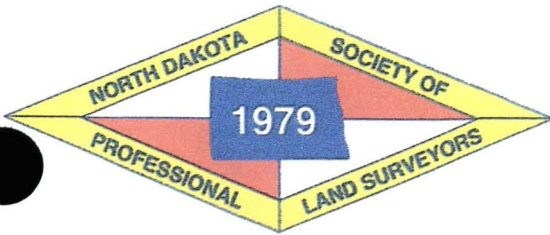
* Either ABET accredited, or degree with a specified number of surveying courses

** With a specified number of years of Surveying experience



July 2016

SB 2015 1-26-17 #1 pg 4



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Senate Bill # 2265 Testimony

January 26, 2017

Chairperson Poolman and Committee Members:

My name is Curtis Glasoe. I was born and raised in northwest North Dakota, graduated from NDSU in engineering, the home of the five time NDSU National Championship Football team, and spent two years in the US Army during the Viet Nam era. I have practiced engineering and land surveying for over 47 years in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Idaho. I have resided in North Dakota for over 60 years. I am currently licensed to practice Land Surveying and Engineering in Montana, South Dakota, and the Great State of North Dakota.

I have been the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) Director for North Dakota, and the Legislative Co-Chairman of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) for 15 years. This State Society is made up of over 340 members. There are approximately 500 Registered Land Surveyors and over 50 dual registrants in Engineering and Land Surveying in North Dakota. Some 133 of these registered people live and practice in the State of North Dakota (2016 data).

I am here to testify in favor of SB2265. This Bill will put the proper education and experience in place to determine the minimum qualifications for registration as a Land Survey Intern (LSI). Becoming a Land Survey Intern is the first big step in becoming a Professional Land Surveyor.

The challenge of preparing our fellow surveyors for their chosen profession is set forth in SB2265. This bill combines education and field experience in the best way possible for these people to become successful Professionals in the Land Surveying field. As you know by requiring education as part of the registration process, it is not just learning the technical aspects of the surveying profession. The dealings, with other classmates, professors, and students in other fields of study, and other subjects outside land surveying, give the person many options in dealing with problems or situations that occur in the course of doing future business. The sharing of knowledge brought about by education is very valuable in the performance of your profession. If one does not know the answer, they are better prepared to know who to call or where to look so they can find the right answer with this new direction set forth in Senate Bill # 2265.

Therefore, I urge this Committee to approve Senate Bill # 2265.

Thank you.

Curtis W. Glasoe, PE and PLS #2439
NSPS Director
NDSPLS Legislative Co-Chairman

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SENATE BILL NO. 2265

Gregory L. Johnson
6404 Deerewood Lane
Bismarck, North Dakota 58503
701-255-6953 home 701-220-2494 cell

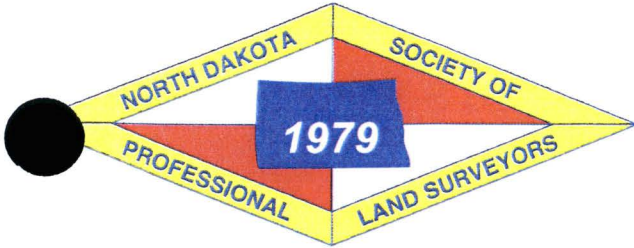
Chairperson Senator Nicole Poolman, and Legislative Members

My name is Gregory Johnson, I am 66 years old and a North Dakota resident for 57 years. I am a US Army veteran 3rd Battalion 84th Artillery 1970-72. I have been a licensed and registered Professional Land Surveyor for 37 years licensed in 6 states, ND, SD, MT, CO, WY, and WI with over 45 years of experience. I worked for consulting engineers for 16 years and Ducks Unlimited Inc. for 24 years as Chief Surveyor for the Central Flyway in 8 states, I continue to work semi-retired in my private practice. .

I am a Charter member of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) and also the South Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (SDSPLS). I am a past President of the NDSPLS. I currently hold the title of Chairman of the Manual of Practice for Land Surveying in North Dakota, and I serve the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors as an Investigator. I also am an Advisory board member of the North Dakota State College of Science for the last 15 years helping establish curriculum standards and courses for the Land Surveying and Civil Engineering Technology program there, keeping that college up to date with current and future technologies and industry needs in that program. I am also on the Educational Assistance Program (EAP) committee with the NDSPLS where we award monies (scholarships) to students enrolled in the land surveying programs approved by our committee at various colleges. We also offer award monies to any ND high school graduate enrolled in a surveying program for the fall college semester.

With the ever changing technologies of surveying and mapping it became very clear to the surveyors and industry of this state that there was a need to improve educational opportunities and standards for those desiring to become a licensed surveyor in this state. All construction projects, developments, energy, mapping, easements, right of ways, and boundaries start and end with the surveyor being on the ground first. Surveyors work with Oil and Gas divisions, utility companies, land owners, title people, county recorders and commissions, judges, attorney's and anyone involved with land ownerships and issues, and serve as expert witnesses as needed in land issues. Along with working with a licensed surveyor for an extended period of time as part of the training, educational experience is very necessary to have the knowledge and tools to make proper decisions and judgements, utilizing boundary law and other subjects necessary for proper surveying.

This bill will put North Dakota on a level with our surrounding states and neighbors with educational requirements, and keep the profession at the same levels and consistency these other states require. **This bill will** give our State Board of Registration a baseline to measure educational levels of those desiring to become interns or registered land surveyors, and to give the applicants a clear path to achieve those educational requirements. **This bill will not** require the new development of any special college programs in the ND University System. The contents of this bill were compiled with the assistance of the ND State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors with great care and study along with the in depth information researched and compiled by the NDSPLS. **This bill will not** significantly reduce the number of Land Surveyor Interns registered in ND as a 10 year window has been left open before meeting the enhanced requirements just as the experience only for Engineers was upgraded to having educational experience along with progressive engineering experience 10 years ago. Having some board approved educational experience along with qualifying land surveying experience is key to this bill and is needed in ND both in industry and in the private sector. **To conclude, I do support this SENATE BILL NO. 2265 and ask for this committee's support by a do pass vote. Thank you.**



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January 26, 2017

To Chairman Poolman and Legislative Members of the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee:

Subject: Senate Bill No. 2265 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 43-19.1-16.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; to amend and reenact sections 43-19.1-16 and 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to regulation of land surveyors and land surveyor interns; to repeal section 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; and to provide an effective date.

I am writing this letter on behalf of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS). NDSPLS is made up of over 340 members, of which some 133 are Registered Professional Land Surveyors, who live and practice in this state. There are approximately 500 Registered Land Surveyors who are licensed to practice in ND. We are licensed and regulated by the North Dakota State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. Our Mission and objective is: to unite all of the Professional Land Surveyors in the State of North Dakota; to elevate the standards of the surveying profession; to establish basic minimum standards and requirements for surveys; to assist in promoting legislative and educational programs to improve the professional status of the Land Surveyor; to work in cooperation with local, county, state, federal and tribal governments in our field of endeavor; to uphold a rigid code of ethics; to strive to improve our relations with our clients and the public by doing our work with precision and integrity; and to maintain a good relationship between Land Surveyors and Engineers.

NDSPLS is in favor of SB 2265. The basic component of any profession is specialized training and education. Currently, education is not a requirement for registration as a Land Surveyor Intern (LSI) in this state. With the continued development of technology, the rapid increase of land values, and the overall complexity of the projects that Land Surveyors are licensed to perform, now more than ever, an educational background is needed. NDSPLS has studied the educational requirements of many states along with the model law developed by the National Council of Examiners of Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) over the past three years. The proposed bill has been developed by a collaborative effort of a committee facilitated by the North Dakota Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors and was made up of representatives from the NDSPLS, the North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers (NDSPE), and the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Dakota (ACEC/ND). This proposed legislation: 1) will require an adequate, yet obtainable level of education, 2) allows 10 years for individuals to achieve registration under the existing law, and 3) brings North Dakota closer to the educational standards of our neighboring states.

Therefore, I urge this Committee to approve Senate Bill No. 2265.

Thank You,


 Aaron Hummert, PLS North Dakota LS-7512

President of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors

Senate Bill No. 2265

26 January 2017

Matthew Weeks
3131 Arizona Dr.
Bismarck, ND 58503

Chairperson Poolman, Legislative Members of the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee.

I have been a resident of North Dakota for the past 45 years and have worked in the land surveying profession for the past 37 years. The last 13 of those, I have been employed with Basin Electric Power Cooperative in Bismarck.

I received my North Dakota Professional Land Surveying Registration in 1993 and I am also a Professional Land Surveyor in the states of South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming, as well as a Certified Federal Surveyor.

For the past seven years I have been on the Advisory Committee for the Land Surveying and Civil Engineering Technology program at North Dakota State College of Science. Last year I was asked to serve on a committee to help develop a baccalaureate program in Land Surveying at Bismarck State Collage, although, at this time, that process is on hold.

In early 2015, the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) formed a committee to study minimum education requirements for Land Survey Interns. NDSPLS presented their findings to the North Dakota State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors (NDPEPLS) and asked their assistance in crafting legislation to implement these requirements.

NDPEPLS then formed their own committee on minimum education requirements. This committee was made up of representatives from NDPEPLS, NDSPLS, North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers, and the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Dakota. The bill presented before you is the work of that committee.

Senate Bill 2265 will help to provide better consistency in the education of each North Dakota Land Survey Intern, thereby resulting in a more consistent and higher quality of work being produced in our state, in turn, benefiting the Public.

This bill will not require the ND University System to add new courses or programs. There are existing programs in place that either meet or exceed these minimum education requirements. In addition, this bill will provide guidance on any future courses and programs that may be developed within the University System.

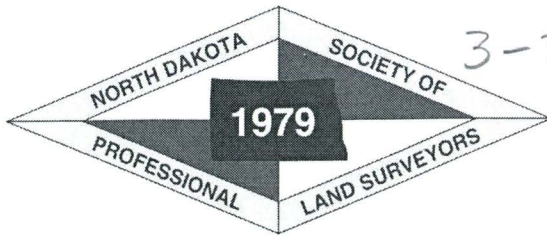
It is anticipated that this bill will not significantly reduce the number of Land Survey Interns, and thus, will not adversely affect the number of Professional Land Surveyors in North Dakota. There are online courses available offering individuals, currently working in the profession, the chance to acquire this minimum education while still maintaining their employment and gaining the required work experience.

This bill also contains an effective date of July 1, 2026. Since the current requirement to become a Land Survey Intern, includes in part, four years of qualifying work experience, this bill will allow anyone presently working towards that goal more than ample time to complete the current requirements.

To summarize, I support Senate Bill No. 2265 for the following reasons:

- It was a cooperative effort between the surveying community and our associated professions.
- It will provide consistency in the education of each North Dakota Land Surveyor.
- It will not place an undue burden on either the University system or on individuals working their way towards becoming a Professional Land surveyor.

Thank you for your time and consideration and **I urge a do pass on Senate Bill No. 2265.**



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Senate Bill # 2265 Testimony

March 3, 2017

Chairperson Klemin and Committee Members:

My name is Curtis Glasoe. I was born and raised in northwest North Dakota, graduated from NDSU in engineering, the home of the five time NDSU National Championship Football team, and spent two years in the US Army during the Viet Nam era. I have practiced engineering and land surveying for over 47 years in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Idaho. I have resided in North Dakota for over 60 years, with the last 38 years in Dickinson, ND. I am currently licensed to practice Land Surveying and Engineering in Montana, South Dakota, and the Great State of North Dakota.

I have been the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) Director for North Dakota, and the Legislative Co-Chairman of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) for 15 years. This State Society is made up of over 340 members. There are approximately 500 Registered Land Surveyors and over 50 dual registrants in Engineering and Land Surveying in North Dakota. Some 133 of these registered people live and practice in the State of North Dakota (2016 data).

I am here to testify in favor of SB2265. This Bill will put the proper education and experience in place to determine the minimum qualifications for registration as a Land Survey Intern (LSI). Becoming a Land Survey Intern is the first big step in becoming a Professional Land Surveyor. Nationally NSPS has had a four year degree in Land Surveying as an education recommendation since 1979.

The challenge of preparing our fellow surveyors for their chosen profession is set forth in SB2265. This bill combines education and field experience in the best way possible for these people to become successful Professionals in the Land Surveying field. As you know by requiring education as part of the registration process, it is not just learning the technical aspects of the surveying profession. The dealings, with other classmates, professors, and students in other fields of study, and other subjects outside land surveying, give the person many options in dealing with problems or situations that occur in the course of doing future business. The sharing of knowledge brought about by education is very valuable in the performance of your profession. If one does not know the answer, they are better prepared to know who to call or where to look so they can find the right answer with this new direction set forth in Senate Bill # 2265.

Therefore, I urge this Committee to approve Senate Bill # 2265.

Thank you.

Curtis W. Glasoe, PE and PLS #2439
NSPS Director
NDSPLS Legislative Co-Chairman

Senate Bill 2265

SB 2265

#2

Kenneth J. Link
613 4th Street Northeast
Hazen ND 58545
701-748-2827 (H)
701-873-7220 (W)

3-3-17

My back ground is:

- Resident of ND all of my life.
- After college I worked in the surveying and mapping field for 45 years:
- A private engineering and surveying company, Mandan ND, (1971).
- Montana Dakota Utilities Company, Bismarck ND (1972).
- In 1975 I started working for The North American Coal Corporation, Freedom Mine northwest of Beulah, N.D. and I am retired as of the end of February 2017.

Professional Licenses:

- I have been licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor in the state of North Dakota since 1979.
- I am also licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor in the following states:
South Dakota, Wyoming and Colorado.

The North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) has talked about the minimum education requirements for 10 years and have studied this subject for the last three (3) years.

NDSPLS is a society of 346 members, 242 with North Dakota mailing addresses, and 133 hold a professional Land Surveyors license in the state of North Dakota (2016 data).

NDSPLS has provided two questionnaires to it's members. The first on December 3, 2015 in an education setting and the second on January 27, 2016 at an annual meeting and convention.

The results of the first (1) questionnaire showed that 76.5% believed there should be some type of education requirements and the second (2) questionnaire showed that 84.8% believed there should be some type of education requirements. (See attached summary of each questionnaire).

The bill removes the "survey experience only" to become certified as a Land Surveyor Intern. This proposed Senate Bill 2265 provides four (4) different options for meeting the educational requirements. On line learning is available throughout the nation for a working person wanting to meet the requirements and become a Land Surveyor Intern.

I support this bill for three (3) reasons:

#1 The bill will create a sound frame work for the basic educational needs for a career as a land surveyor in North Dakota.

#2 The bill will put North Dakota on par with the educational requirements of surrounding states, and helps meet the needs of industry in our changing times. (See attached map).

#3 This basic education requirement for a Land Surveyor Intern will not require the development of any new educational college programs in the state of North Dakota, as I had met one of these four proposed educational requirements 45 years ago within this state.

I would be open to try to answer any questions at any time.

Again, I do support SB 2265 and encourage a vote of Do Pass.

Kenneth J. link March, 2017



“Minimum Education Requirements Evaluation”

Opinions obtained on December 3, 2014.

1. 32 or 23.53% Do nothing leave the process as it exists today with **NO EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**.
2. 29 or 21.32% Require semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping, and related courses acceptable to the State Board **WITHOUT** a type of degree.
3. 10 or 7.35% Require an associate’s degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
4. 55 or 40.44% Require an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree **WITH** semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.
5. 2 or 1.47% Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
6. 8 or 5.88% Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.

Conciliation:

23.53% Believe on change and no education requirements.

47.79% Believe some type of an Associate degree is required.

67.65% Believe there should be some type of requires semester credit hours of land surveying education requirement.

76.47% Believe there should be some type of education requirement.

Recommendation:

The committee’s recommendation to the members of NDSPLS is as follows:

Whereas 76.47% believing there should be some type of education requirements and

Whereas 67.65% believing there should be a land surveying education requirement and

Whereas 47.79% believing there should be some type of Associate degree requirement

Therefore an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree with specified number of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries and mapping be the Minimum Education Requirements for registration as a Land Surveyor Intern in the state of North Dakota.

This report completes the committee’s investigation as laid out in the motion made at the NDSPLS general membership meeting on February 14, 2014.

Respectfully submitted: Kenneth Link, Greg Johnson, Aaron Hummert and Matt Weeks.

Form 1/03/2015



“Minimum Education Requirements Evaluation”

Opinions obtained on January 27 2016.

1. 10 or 15.15% Do nothing leave the process as it exists today with **NO EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**.
2. 4 or 6.06% Require semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping, and related courses acceptable to the State Board **WITHOUT** a type of degree.
3. 2 or 3.03% Require an associate’s degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
4. 46 or 69.70% Require an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree **WITH** semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.
5. 1 or 1.52% Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH NO** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping.
6. 3 or 4.54% Require a Bachelor’s Degree **WITH** required defined course study of semester credit hours of land surveying, real property boundaries, mapping acceptable to the State Board.

Conciliation:

15.15% Believe no change and no education requirements.

72.73% Believe some type of an Associate degree is required.

83.30% Believe there should be some type of required semester credits of land surveying education.

84.85% Believe there should be some type of education requirement.

Recommendation:

The committee’s recommendation to the members of NDSPLS is as follows:

Whereas 84.85% believing there should be some type of education requirements and

Whereas 83.30% believing there should be a land surveying education requirement and

Whereas 72.73% believing there should be some type of Associate degree requirement.

Therefore an Associate’s of Applied Science Degree with specified number of semester credits of land surveying, real property boundaries and mapping be the Minimum Education Requirements for registration as a Land Surveyor Intern in the state of North Dakota.

This report completes the committee’s investigation as laid out in the motion made at the NDSPLS general membership meeting on January 27, 2016.

Respectfully submitted

Form 1/03/2015

Land Surveyor in Training (Survey Intern) Minimum Educational Requirements

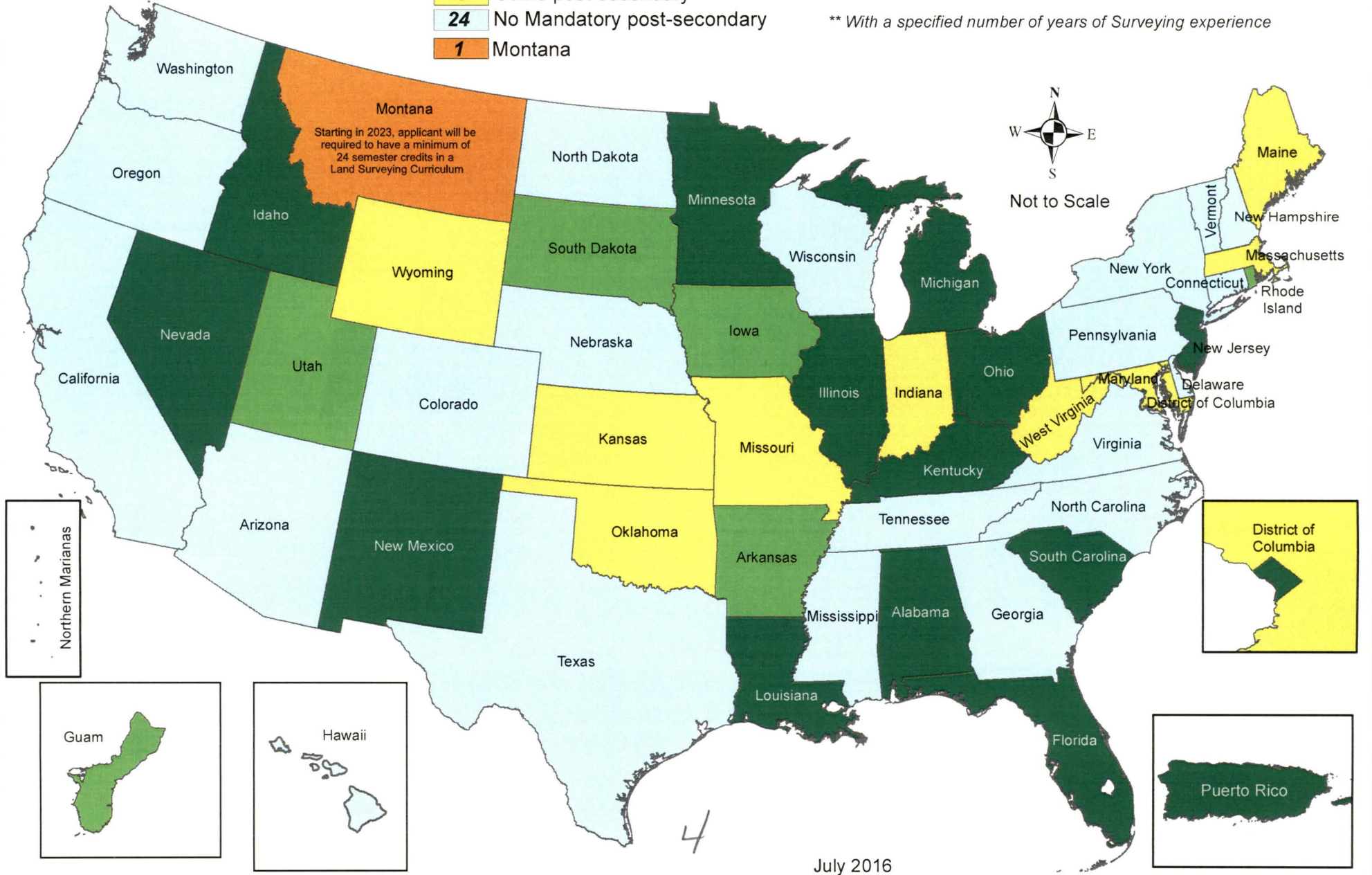
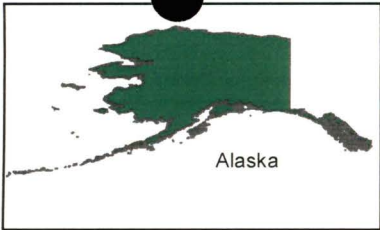
Assumptions: 1) a new Surveyor applicant who has never been licensed anywhere (ignoring comity or grandfathering clauses)
 2) Who wants to start the licensure process in your jurisdiction 3) assuming they pass the FS exam somewhere in the process

What is the current **MINIMUM EDUCATION LEVEL** required to qualify as a Land Surveyor in Training or Survey Intern in your jurisdiction:

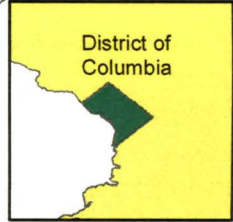
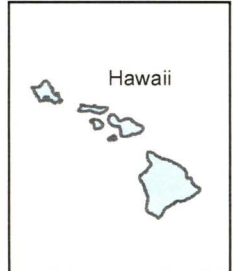
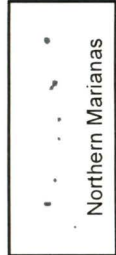
- 17** Bachelor's Degree *
- 6** Associate's Degree *
- 9** Some post-secondary **
- 24** No Mandatory post-secondary
- 1** Montana

* Either ABET accredited, or degree with a specified number of surveying courses

** With a specified number of years of Surveying experience



Not to Scale



4



SB 2265

#3

3-3-17

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Website: www.ndspls.org

March 3, 2017

To Chairman Klemin and Legislative Members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:

Subject: Senate Bill No. 2265 - A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 43-19.1-16.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; to amend and reenact sections 43-19.1-16 and 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to regulation of land surveyors and land surveyor interns; to repeal section 43-19.1-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications of land surveyor interns; and to provide an effective date.

I am writing this letter on behalf of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS). NDSPLS is made up of over 340 members, of which some 133 are Registered Professional Land Surveyors, who live and practice in this state. There are approximately 500 Registered Land Surveyors who are licensed to practice in ND. We are licensed and regulated by the North Dakota State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. Our Mission and objective is: to unite all of the Professional Land Surveyors in the State of North Dakota; to elevate the standards of the surveying profession; to establish basic minimum standards and requirements for surveys; to assist in promoting legislative and educational programs to improve the professional status of the Land Surveyor; to work in cooperation with local, county, state, federal and tribal governments in our field of endeavor; to uphold a rigid code of ethics; to strive to improve our relations with our clients and the public by doing our work with precision and integrity; and to maintain a good relationship between Land Surveyors and Engineers.

NDSPLS is in favor of SB 2265. The basic component of any profession is specialized training and education. Currently, education is not a requirement for registration as a Land Surveyor Intern (LSI) in this state. With the continued development of technology, the rapid increase of land values, and the overall complexity of the projects that Land Surveyors are licensed to perform, now more than ever, an educational background is needed. NDSPLS has studied the educational requirements of many states along with the model law developed by the National Council of Examiners of Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) over the past three years. NDSPLS has also taken into account the stance of the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) requiring a 4 year degree. The proposed bill has been developed by a collaborative effort of a committee facilitated by the North Dakota Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors and was made up of representatives from the NDSPLS, the North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers (NDSPE), and the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Dakota (ACEC/ND). This proposed legislation: 1) will require an adequate, yet obtainable level of education, 2) allows 10 years for individuals to achieve registration under the existing law, and 3) brings North Dakota closer to the educational standards of our neighboring states and national professional associations.

Therefore, I urge this Committee to approve Senate Bill No. 2265.

Thank You,


Aaron Hummert, PLS North Dakota LS-7512
Past-President of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors

SB 2265

#4

3-3-17

Senate Bill No. 2265

3 March 2017

Matthew Weeks
3131 Arizona Dr.
Bismarck, ND 58503

Chairman Klemin, Legislative Members of the Political Subdivisions Committee.

I have been a resident of North Dakota for the past 45 years and have worked in the land surveying profession for the past 37 years. The last 13 of those, I have been employed with Basin Electric Power Cooperative in Bismarck.

I received my North Dakota Professional Land Surveying Registration in 1993 and I am also a Professional Land Surveyor in the states of South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming, as well as a Certified Federal Surveyor.

For the past seven years I have been on the Advisory Committee for the Land Surveying and Civil Engineering Technology program at North Dakota State College of Science. Last year I was asked to serve on a committee to help develop a baccalaureate program in Land Surveying at Bismarck State Collage, although, at this time, that process is on hold.

In early 2015, the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) formed a committee to study minimum education requirements for Land Survey Interns. NDSPLS presented their findings to the North Dakota State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (NDPELS) and asked their assistance in crafting legislation to implement these requirements.

NDPELS then formed their own committee on minimum education requirements. This committee was made up of representatives from NDPELS, NDSPLS, North Dakota Society of Professional Engineers, and the American Council of Engineering Companies. The bill presented before you is the work of that committee.

Senate Bill 2265 will help to provide better consistency in the education of each North Dakota Land Survey Intern, thereby resulting in a more consistent and higher quality of work being produced in our state, in turn, benefiting both the Public and the Professional Land Surveyors of North Dakota.

This bill will not require the ND University System to add new courses or programs. There are existing programs in place that either meet or exceed these minimum education requirements. In addition, this bill will provide guidance on any future courses and programs that may be developed within the University System.

It is anticipated that this bill will not significantly reduce the number of Land Survey Interns, and thus, will not adversely affect the number of Professional Land Surveyors in North Dakota. There are online courses available offering individuals, currently working in the profession, the chance to acquire this minimum education while still maintaining their employment and gaining the required work experience.

This bill also contains an effective date of July 1, 2026. Since the current requirement to become Land Survey Intern, includes in part, four years of qualifying work experience, this bill will allow anyone presently working towards that goal more than ample time to complete the current requirements.

To summarize, I support Senate Bill No. 2265 for the following reasons:

- It was a cooperative effort between the surveying community and our associated professions.
- It will provide consistency in the education of each North Dakota Land Surveyor.
- It will not place an undue burden on either the University system or on individuals working their way towards becoming a Professional Land surveyor.

Thank you for your time and consideration and **I urge a do pass on Senate Bill No. 2265.**

SB 2265

5



3-3-17

3120 East Broadway Ave
Bismarck, ND 58501
Phone: 701.223.3546

Email: hollybeck@hollybecksurveying.com

March 3, 2017
Senate Bill #2265 Testimony

Chairperson Klemin and Committee Members

My name is Holly Beck. I am the owner of Holly Beck Surveying & Engineering here in Bismarck. Our firm has grown from a one-person firm in 2004 to a staff of 6 full time employees with another 4 or 5 seasonal employees during the peak of the construction season. We work throughout the State of ND providing land surveying and civil engineering services.

I am a Past President of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS) and am currently the North Dakota National Director for the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC).

I am here to testify in favor of SB 2265. This Bill will require the proper education and experience to determine the minimum qualifications for registration as a Land Survey Intern (LSI). Becoming a Land Survey Intern is the first big step towards becoming a Professional Land Surveyor. This bill combines education and field experience to become a successful professional. By requiring education as part of the registration process, it is not just about learning the technical aspects of how to run the equipment. The opportunities for collaboration, networking, and communication with students in other fields of study along with taking other subjects outside of land surveying give the person communication skills and general knowledge. The sharing of knowledge and information brought about by education is very valuable in the performance of any profession, especially the Professional Land Surveyor who often deals with boundary laws, public policy and community development.

I urge this Committee to approve Senate Bill #2265.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Holly Beck'.

Holly Beck, PLS/PE #4934

The logo for the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) features the acronym 'ACEC' in a large, bold, black font, with 'AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES' in a smaller font below it.

100 Years of Excellence

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TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SENATE BILL NO. 2265

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Gregory L. Johnson Licensed and Registered Professional Land Surveyor
6404 Deerewood Lane
Bismarck, North Dakota 58503
701-255-6953 home 701-220-2494 cell
March 3, 2017

Chairman Klemin and Legislative Members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:

My name is Gregory Johnson, I am 66 years old and a North Dakota resident for 57 years. I am a US Army veteran 3rd Battalion 84th Artillery 1970-72. I have been a licensed and registered Professional Land Surveyor for 37 years licensed in 6 states with over 45 years of experience. I worked for consulting firms for 16 years and for a private non profit conservation organization for 24 years as Chief Surveyor for the Central Flyway in 8 states, I continue to work semi-retired in my private practice. .

I am a past President of the North Dakota Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NDSPLS). I currently hold the title of Chairman of the Manual of Practice for Land Surveying in North Dakota, and I serve the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors as an Investigator. I also am an advisory board member of the North Dakota State College of Science for the last 15 years helping establish curriculum standards and courses for the Land Surveying and Civil Engineering Technology program there, keeping that college up to date with current and future technologies and industry needs in that program. I serve on the Educational Assistance Program (EAP) committee with the NDSPLS where we award monies (scholarships) to students enrolled in the land surveying programs approved by our committee at various colleges. We also offer award monies to any ND high school graduate enrolled in a surveying program for the fall college semester.

With the ever changing technologies of surveying and mapping it became very clear to the surveyors and industry of this state that there was a need to improve educational opportunities and standards for those desiring to become a licensed surveyor in this state. All construction projects, developments, energy, mapping, easements, right of ways, and boundaries start and end with the surveyor being on the ground first. Surveyors work with various state agencies and divisions, utility companies, land owners, title people, county recorders and commissions, judges, attorney's and anyone involved with land ownerships and issues, and serve as expert witnesses as needed in land issues. Along with working with a licensed surveyor for an extended period of time as part of the training, educational experience is very necessary to have the knowledge and tools to make proper decisions and judgements, utilizing boundary law and other subjects and equipment necessary for proper surveying.

This bill will put North Dakota on a level with our surrounding states and neighbors with educational requirements, and keep the profession at the same levels and consistency these other states require.

This bill will give our State Board of Registration a baseline to measure educational levels of those desiring to become interns or registered land surveyors, and to give the applicants a clear path to achieve those educational requirements. **This bill will not** require the new development of any special college programs in the ND University System. The contents of this bill were compiled with the assistance of the ND State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors with great care and study along with the in depth information researched and compiled by the NDSPLS. **This bill will not** significantly reduce the number of Land Surveyor Interns registered in ND as a 10 year window has been left open before meeting the enhanced requirements just as the experience only for Engineers was upgraded to having educational experience along with progressive engineering experience 10 years ago. Having some board approved educational experience along with qualifying land surveying experience is key to this bill and is needed in North Dakota both in industry and in the private sector. **To conclude, I do support this SENATE BILL NO. 2265 and ask for this committee's support by a do pass vote. Thank you.**